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ABSTRACT

Drawing on the skills activities found in a variety of basal readers, this book helps teachers who often struggle to reconcile the mandates of direct instruction on basic skills with the preferences of teachers who prefer to teach using children's literature. The book presents lessons built on a list of skills that students should learn in grades kindergarten through three. Activities in the book use a variety of teaching strategies and discussion options. Many of the activities integrate other subjects such as writing, geography, and oral delivery. Each lesson is set up in a similar format. A work of children's literature is identified and summarized for use in teaching a particular skill, and a lesson follows that may involve creating a chart to analyze elements of the skill, leading a discussion, or pursuing further research in the library. A list of related books provides titles that may be used to replace the featured title or may be used for further exploration; most of the activities can be easily adapted to another book. (RS)

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